

# LAS VEGAS

# SUNSHINE



**STRIP CHATTER....."THE SPIRIT OF VEGAS, '76"** is the title of the new musical revue being produced by MERIT PRODUCTIONS (Los Angeles, Las Vegas) for its world premiere in the bicentennial celebration in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina next spring. Myrtle Beach which is one of the east coast's swiftest summer resorts (drawing from as far north as New York and Washington, D.C. and as far south as Atlanta, Miami, and New Orleans) will see "The Spirit" as the opening attraction at the new Boar's Head Inn theater restaurant. Heading the cast (and a Merit Productions principal) is 25-year old show biz "wunderkind" GREG MARTIN who not only sings and dances (he was the singing star for Minsky's in Miami, and recently starred in the S.F. company of rock opera "Tommy") but is also director, choreographer, actor, model, and the on and off stage creative force behind the new revue. Martin will be holding auditions for singers, dancers, showgirls and specialty acts in January in Las Vegas and Los Angeles; "Spirit" and the Boar's Head are scheduling an Easter holiday opening. Already set to create the show are RON MERRIN choreographer of Bill Moore and George Arnold's long-running "Spice On Ice" revues currently at the Hacienda, costume designer LLOYD LAMBERT (who's created all of the costumes for many of the Barry Ashton shows including "Vive Paris Vive" at the Flamingo, "Femmes de Paris", Revue Royale de Paris" and Ashton's current hit shows in Miami, Tokyo and Hong Kong), and musical director-arranger HAL HIDEY. Producer-star MARTIN, with his associates in Merit DR. IDA PEARCE and REX HULLINGS, plan to make "Spirit" the prototype for a series of musical revues to tour the country in '76 as part of the bicentennial; the original

## COUNTRY SUNSHINE BARBARA FAIRCHILD RETURNS TO "COUNTRY MUSIC" AT LANDMARK

Barbara Fairchild returns to the Landmark Hotel Friday for the second time as the headliner of the Jubilee Room's well received country/western musical revue "Country Music U.S.A." With her will be Jerry Naylor, Skip De Vol and Jerry Collins.

During this, the first edition of CMUSA for the new year, Barbara will introduce her latest recording "I Just Love Being A Woman," a tune which she also co-wrote and which may very well reach the same amount of success as did her smash hit "The Teddy Bear Song."

A petite, blonde bit of sunshine, the composer / performer's greatest love -- live entertainment -- is evidenced by her ability to capture the hearts of her audiences, leaving them defenseless against the power of her lively, warm



BARBARA

spirit. Jerry Naylor, who's latest hit recording "Is That All There Is To A Honky Tonk," created some waves among the California winggrowers when he emphasized the line "just bar stools and cheap California red wine." did not, however, stir up enough

of a storm to have any effect on the ever-growing popularity of this country deejay (his radio show "Continental Country" won Billboard's 1973 and 1974 award for best Syndicated Country Music Radio Show), recording artist (after nearly five years as front

for the popular pop group The Crickets he drifted back to where he had his beginnings, in pure country), and "Honorary Mayor Of Calabasas, Calif."

Back for his sixth time around is "the happiest banjo picker in the whole U.S.A." Skip De Vol. What De Vol can do with a banjo was practically unheard of before the handsome and talented entertainer made the Las Vegas scene.

Frick and Frack's greatest PR man, Jerry Collins, also returns for his third time to do the comedy segment of the country package. Collins, who's last engagement was cut short by illness, is enthusiastically received by the many fans of this long-time Las Vegas favorite.

The Barbara Fairchild show is in the Jubilee Room through January 25, Showtimes 8 P.M. and Midnight.

"Spirit of Vegas '76" will be indefinitely booked in Myrtle Beach. Merit Productions is primarily involved in medical,

educational, and documentary films; the new revue marks the company's first project in the nightclub field.....

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